

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a 3-month extension of time. A check for \$465 is attached.

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for any extension of time necessary to render this response timely.

Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0694.

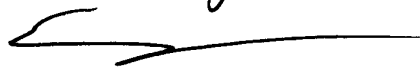
Respectfully submitted,



Gregory C. Smith, Reg. No. 29,441
Charles C. Garvey, Jr., Reg. No. 27,889
Seth M. Nehrbass, Reg. No. 31,281
Stephen R. Doody, Reg. No. 29,062
Brett A. North, Reg. No. 42,040
GARVEY, SMITH, NEHRBASS & DOODY, L.L.C.
PTO CUSTOMER NO. 22920
3838 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 3290
Metairie, LA 70002
Telephone: (504) 835-2000; 835-2070 (fax)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 29 Sept. 2003.



Gregory C. Smith, Reg. No. 29,441

S-M Nehrbass